

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 14 of the specification, please delete the 3rd full paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

In such cases, the ratio of ~~other components~~ the vinyl ether group-containing (meth) acrylic ester is preferably not less than 50% by weight, more preferably not less than 70% by weight, still more preferably not less than 80% by weight, particularly preferably not less than 90% by weight, most preferably not less than 95% by weight, relative to the total amount of the composition.

Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 24 and 25, and replace it with the following paragraph:

The method of producing a vinyl ether group-containing (meth) acrylic ester is a method of producing a vinyl ether group-containing (meth) acrylic ester represented by the above general formula (1). The above method of producing a vinyl ether group-containing (meth) acrylic ester comprises reacting a hydroxyl group-containing vinyl ether represented by the following general formula (2):



in the formula, R^2 represents an organic residue and R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or an organic residue,

with a (meth) acrylic ester represented by the following general formula (3):



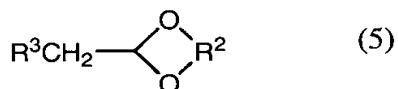
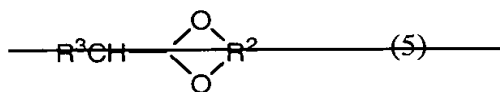
in the formula, R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R^4 represents an organic residue,

and in which the above hydroxyl group-containing vinyl ether contains at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a divinyl ether represented by the following general formula (4):



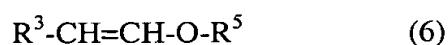
in the formula, R^2 represents an organic residue and the two R^3 groups are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or an organic residue,

a 2-substituted-1, 3-dioxo compound represented by the following general formula (5)



in the formula, R^2 represents an organic residue and R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or an organic residue,

and an unsaturated bond-containing vinyl ether represented by the following general formula (6):



in the formula, R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or an organic residue; R^5 represents an organic residue containing an unsaturated bond represented by $-CR^6=CR^7-$; and R^6 and R^7 are the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom or an organic residue. In the present specification, such production method is referred to as the production method (a).

At page 76, please delete the 1st full paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/982,861
Attorney Docket No.: Q66372

The ~~molecular oxygen-nitrogen monoxide gas~~ concentration in the gaseous phase during reaction was 0.1 to 8% by volume.